

## PUBLIC INFORMATION

**PROGRAM:**

Publications and Graphics

**PROGRAM ELEMENT:**

Web Site Management

**PROGRAM MISSION:**

To oversee the Montgomery County web site at [www.montgomerycountymd.gov](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov) to ensure that (1) the content is accurate and appropriate and the format is easy to navigate, and (2) the entire web site operates in a consistent manner

**COMMUNITY OUTCOMES SUPPORTED:**

- Convenient access to public services
- Citizens and reporters informed about County issues, programs, services, and policies
- Greater participation by citizens in the programs and services of County departments and agencies

**PROGRAM MEASURES**

	FY02 ACTUAL	FY03 ACTUAL	FY04 ACTUAL	FY05 BUDGET	FY05 ACTUAL	FY06 APPROVED
<b>Outcomes/Results:</b>						
Total County web page views (000)	5,793	34,354	45,366	50,000	75,233	96,000
<b>Service Quality:</b>						
Percentage of web site visitors who find the site useful	75	95	96	100	83	100
Percentage of web site visitors who think information is easy to find	70	85	90	100	61	100
<b>Efficiency:</b>						
Cost per web site hit (cents)	1.09	0.18	0.14	0.14	0.09	0.07
<b>Workload/Outputs:</b>						
Total County web site pages (static pages only)	581,007	<sup>a</sup> 56,601	<sup>b</sup> 22,505	26,000	26,346	30,000
<b>Inputs:</b>						
Expenditures (\$)	63,280	61,996	65,677	67,976	67,976	70,336
Workyears	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0

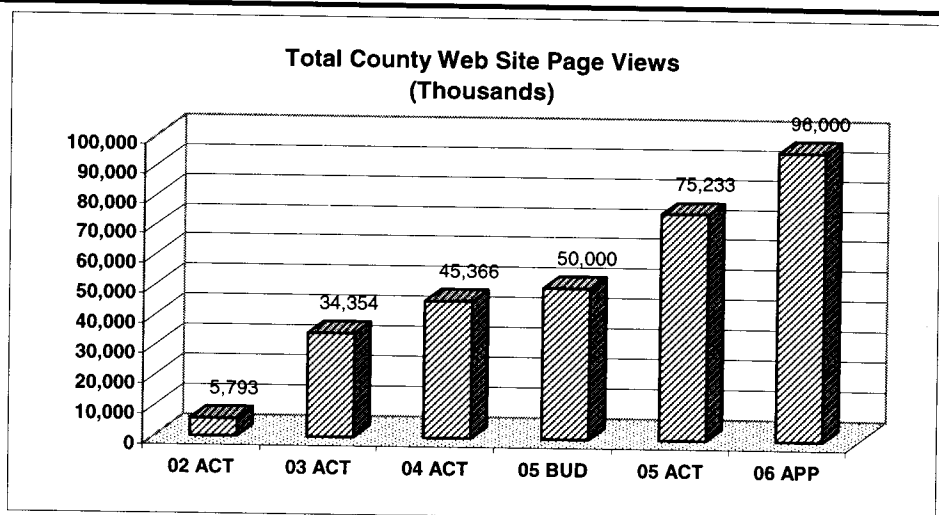
**Notes:**

<sup>a</sup>The number of web site pages fell when the Department of Technology Services removed duplicative and unnecessary pages in combining the [www.co.mo.md.us](http://www.co.mo.md.us) and [www.emontgomery.org](http://www.emontgomery.org) sites.

<sup>b</sup>This reduction in the number of web site pages represents the elimination of duplicate pages and the change from static to dynamic page technology.

**EXPLANATION:**

The County presence on the World Wide Web was launched in December 1995 with 40 core pages at [www.co.mo.md.us](http://www.co.mo.md.us). In 1999, a second web site was launched at [www.emontgomery.org](http://www.emontgomery.org) to provide interactive services online. In FY03, the two sites were consolidated into one easy-to-navigate site with an easy-to-remember URL address - [montgomerycountymd.gov](http://montgomerycountymd.gov) - in order to make County information, programs, and services more accessible than ever to residents.



**PROGRAM PARTNERS IN SUPPORT OF OUTCOMES:** Department of Technology Services, County departments and agencies.

**MAJOR RELATED PLANS AND GUIDELINES:**

# PUBLIC INFORMATION

**PROGRAM:**

Public Relations

**PROGRAM ELEMENT:**

Public Education

**PROGRAM MISSION:**

To educate the public about County programs and services via the mass media in order to reach the most people with clear, accurate, and timely information at the lowest possible cost

**COMMUNITY OUTCOMES SUPPORTED:**

- Citizens and reporters informed about County issues, programs, services, and policies
- Public and media awareness for the programs and services of County departments and agencies
- High value for tax dollars

**PROGRAM MEASURES**

	FY02 ACTUAL	FY03 ACTUAL	FY04 ACTUAL	FY05 BUDGET	FY05 ACTUAL	FY06 APPROVED
<b>Outcomes/Results:</b>						
Equivalent value of free media coverage provided during the year (\$000) <sup>a</sup>	NA	3,346	3,814	3,840	3,918	3,840
Minutes of network television coverage of Montgomery County	NA	1,394	1,589	1,600	1,726	1,600
<b>Service Quality:</b>						
Percentage of media representatives who report that the Office of Public Information (OPI) routinely provides them with timely and accurate information <sup>b</sup>	NA	100	100	100	100	100
Percentage of County departments and agencies that report that OPI does a good job in promoting their programs and services to the public <sup>c</sup>	NA	98	99	100	99	100
<b>Efficiency:</b>						
Average program cost per minute of network television news coverage (\$)	NA	204	208	220	205	235
Average cost per response to a press inquiry (\$)	28.00	24.87	28.78	30.61	24.31	32.70
Value of free media coverage received per dollar spent on public education (\$)	NA	11.78	11.56	10.91	11.07	10.21
<b>Workload/Outputs:</b>						
Number of press inquiries received	9,500	11,420	11,465	11,500	14,560	11,500
Number of press releases prepared and disseminated	517	441	578	580	600	580
<b>Inputs:</b>						
Expenditures (\$000)	266	284	330	352	354	376
Workyears	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0

**Notes:**

<sup>a</sup>Based on actual advertising rates during news programs on weekday evenings.

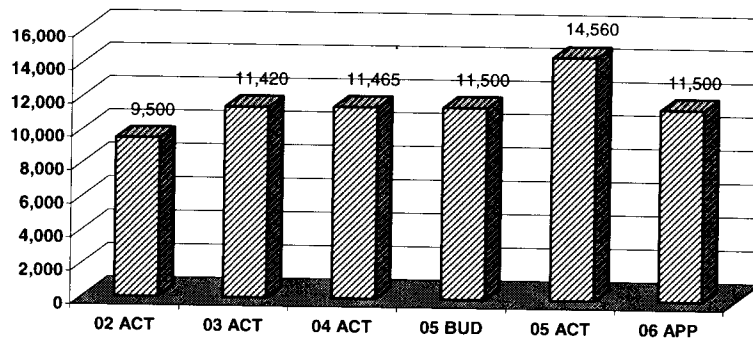
<sup>b</sup>Based on a survey of four local network newsrooms.

<sup>c</sup>Based on a survey of 21 County departments and agencies.

**EXPLANATION:**

The Office of Public Information is responsible for, among other things, educating citizens about the wide variety of programs and services available to them and the issues that affect them. In order to reach the most people at the lowest possible cost, the Office focuses its efforts on attracting mass media news coverage, rather than printing pamphlets, flyers, and other materials to educate the public. News coverage cannot be directly controlled, but it is free and worth pursuing when programs and services warrant public attention. Public education is essential if taxpayers are to understand the value they receive for their tax dollars.

**Total Number of Press Inquiries Received**


**PROGRAM PARTNERS IN SUPPORT OF OUTCOMES:**

Correction and Rehabilitation workforce development crew, Radio and TV Monitoring Reports, internal Public Information Working Group, County departments and agencies.

**MAJOR RELATED PLANS AND GUIDELINES:**